

April 1

House Leadership.

Mr. Hepburn stated that he had informed Mr. Sinclair, the House Leader, that, as he was not an elected member of the Ontario Legislature, he did not wish to take any part in a caucus of the Liberal members: He felt that the leadership of the House rested entirely with Mr. Sinclair and that the individual members would reciprocate that feeling.

"I have kept entirely away from the session in view of this," Mr. Hepburn stated.

The Globe learned that the assembled members were in accord with previously expressed views of the Leader-elect, and expressions of cooperation on his stand were made yesterday. The question of finding a seat for Mr. Hepburn was not discussed, it was said.

It was decided among the members at the meeting that each would hold a picnic in his riding during the coming summer, and the new Leader was asked to address the assemblage at each one.

"I agreed to go into each riding this summer, when the member will hold a gala picnic for his constituents—I have been invited, and will deliver an address at each one on the principles of Liberalism as laid down by the December convention," Mr. Hepburn stated.

"What better illustration could be given that harmony and unanimous feeling exists among us and that a dawn of united Liberalism is sweeping the Province which will ultimately carry us to victory?" Ontario's new Liberal chieftain asked.

Mr. Hepburn left for Ottawa last night.

SEPARATE SCHOOLS ASK SHARE IN TAXES

Boards Seek Revenue From Public and State-Owned Corporations

At the request of the Separate School Boards of Ontario, L. Cote (Cons., Ottawa East) presented their argument for a proportion of the school taxes of public and state-owned corporations before a virtually empty House at 12.30 o'clock this (Wednesday) morning.

Mr. Cote approached the subject by outlining the reactions between common and separate or Catholic schools as existing at the time of Confederation.

"May I point out that when a Government allows its property to be taxed, these taxes are voluntary and in the nature of a grant out of public funds? But notwithstanding their constitutional right to share in public grants, the separate school supporters under the assessment law as it exists, cannot collect one dollar of those taxes," said Mr. Cote.

"I have shown that separate school supporters should be exempt from taxation for public schools, but it is also a fact that for their ownership and interest in the Canadian National Railways and in other state-owned enterprises, they receive no school tax at all."

By way of a reply to the statements of Mr. Cote, Premier George S. Henry said in part:

"This matter is one of the problems which develop without changing conditions. I don't know that there is any simple solution to it—in fact, I think there isn't, and I have some appreciation of the various difficulties surrounding the whole suggestion. Nothing can be done by the Education Department authorities without a great deal of care and attention. I am sure the department will give it every study, but it will have to be left in that way for the present, at least."

FORMAL PROROGATION OF ONTARIO HOUSE SET FOR TOMORROW

Contentious Optometry Bill Passes Committee and Game Laws Amendment Allows the Use of Ferrets in Hunt- ing Rabbits

SINCLAIR ALONE ON OPPOSITION SIDE

The Ontario Legislature will sit today for the last time this session. Business will be wound up some time tonight or tomorrow morning, but in any event formal prorogation of the House by Lieutenant-Governor William D. Ross is set for tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Premier George S. Henry pushed deliberations last night, past midnight, on through the early hours of the morning in order to get the decks for final sweeping today. Several departments of the main estimates were voted; much legislation of a contentious nature was moved up several notches toward enactment, and generally speaking, the fagged legislators showed every sign of counting the hours until it was "all over."

Permit Mail-Order Sale.

A. E. Honeywell's optometry bill, a bill which almost caused a riot in committee, had to be dealt with by a subcommittee and engendered a lot of corridor lobbying, passed committee stage of the House last night, without a murmur of dissent when its sponsor stated that further revisions of its original form would permit mail-order sale of spectacles as usual, but would prevent salesmen from going from house-to-house with eye charts.

A minor but interesting feature of Hon. Charles McCrea's annual bill to amend the game laws of the Province will allow the use of ferrets in the hunting of rabbits, but will ban the use of bags and traps at the same time the ferrets are in action.

Another feature of last night's deliberations was the absence of the Liberal Opposition from the Chamber, when Premier Henry took his seat about 8.30 and made signs for the entrance of Mr. Speaker. All the Liberals were down at the Prince George, at a dinner conference with their Provincial chieftain, Mitchell Hepburn, with the exception of William E. N. Sinclair, House Leader, who had a previous engagement, and Dr. L. J. Simpson, Centre Simcoe, who was unexpectedly called to Barrie. When the House did resume business, Mr. Sinclair was the only Liberal in his seat.

"Complete Harmony."

A statement issued to the press by the group, following the Prince George affair, was to the effect that "complete harmony prevailed."

When Mr. Henry started to vote the main estimates about 11.30 o'clock, Hon. Harry C. Nixon, Progressive Leader, registered protest, stating that no intelligent discussion could be expected from the Opposition when the estimates had only been tabled in the late afternoon.

For a while last night there was an indication that a morning sitting of the House, this morning, would be necessary to clean up the order paper, but after consultation with the Liberal and Progressive Leaders the Prime Minister announced, through his Whip, William H. Ireland, that such an "early-riser" session would be dispensed with.

New Varsity Editor Is Theology Student

At a meeting of the Publications Committee of the Students' Administrative Council of the University of Toronto yesterday, F. W. Payton, a student in theology at Wycliffe College, was appointed Editor-in-Chief of the Varsity for the coming year. The new appointee, who has been Associate Editor of the paper for the past two years, is also this year editor of Torontonensis. The appointment of a women's editor will be made by the Publications Committee after consultation with Mr. Payton.

IMMIGRATION POST FILLED IN LONDON

Duncan J. Mathieson of Petrolea Appointed by Ontario

Appointment of Duncan J. Mathieson of Petrolea to fill the vacant Ontario Government Immigration Department position in London has been recommended to the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Thomas L. Kennedy. Official announcement to this effect was made yesterday afternoon by the Minister. The matter has yet to be approved by Cabinet Council.

The recommendation came from a meeting of several Western Ontario members of the Legislature yesterday morning, including Howard Fraleigh, East Lambton; J. P. Moore, K.C., North London; Austin Smith, South Essex; Fred Laughton, North Middlesex; Philip J. Henry, East Kent, and Hon. Dr. Paul Poisson, North Essex. Some sixty applications had been made for the post.

Mr. Mathieson has had a long and varied experience, and is a trained and capable agriculturist, being a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College. He is 38 years old, and this is significant in view of the fact that it is the policy of the department in these instances to keep the ages of applicants to be considered under 45 years.

It is planned to widen the scope of the office to which the appointment has been made. Under the new plan, the representative will look after the boys who come out under the various English immigration schemes, such as those who have gone to the Vimy Ridge Farm at Guelph. This will eliminate the necessity for sending out inspectors from Toronto and will mean a large saving to the people of the Province, the Minister pointed out.

Frauds Commissioner Will Be Paid \$10,000

Salaries of the Commissioner or Commissioners who will administer the Security Frauds Prevention Act will likely be about \$10,000, Hon. W. H. Price, Attorney-General, intimated in the Ontario Legislature last night, when the bill providing for the Commission passed the Committee of the Whole. W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal Leader, strongly urged that the Commission be composed of more than one man. There was always a tendency of a one-man Commission to become arbitrary. After the trouble Colonel Price had already had in administering the act, he thought he would be well advised to make it a three-man Commission.